

researched a family grave box and restored a Civil War soldier's gravestone at Mt. Mora Cemetery in St. Joseph, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Benjamin Kirtley for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

#### “THE VETERANS’ PRIVACY ACT”

### HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 11, 2013*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing a bill, the Veterans’ Privacy Act, a bill that directs the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to prescribe regulations ensuring that, when veterans receive care from VA, their privacy will not be violated by unauthorized video surveillance.

By its very nature, medical care requires that an individual forfeit some privacy in order to obtain treatment. However, when a veteran walks into a VA medical facility, they should not have to worry about a covert camera being in their treatment room.

Last June, a covert camera disguised as a smoke detector was installed in the room of a brain damaged veteran who was being treated at the James A. Haley VA Medical Center in Tampa, Florida. Upon discovering the hidden camera, the veteran’s family was understandably outraged.

When the veteran’s family asked about the camera, VA officials first stated that the camera did not exist, then changed their story and admitted that the “smoke detector” was actually a video camera. When further asked if the camera was recording, VA told the family that the camera was only “monitoring” the patient and was not recording. Only after inquiries by local media and the House Veterans’ Affairs Committee did VA admit that the camera was recording. VA then removed the camera from the patient’s room.

In the wake of this incident, I sent a letter to VA asking for its legal authority to place a camera in a patient’s room without consent. VA stated that its legal opinion was that the hidden camera did not violate the law, but that it was developing a national policy to address the issue of video surveillance of patients. In response to a recent status request on this national policy from my staff, VA stated that it did not expect to have the policy finalized before September 2013, well over a year after this incident occurred.

I am deeply disturbed at VA’s callous actions and response to the privacy interests of this veteran, and can’t help but wonder whether similar incidents are occurring across the country, especially since VA still lacks a national policy in this area. The least we can do is ensure basic privacy rights of the men and women who have served our country when they seek the treatment they have earned.

Mr. Speaker, no veteran should have to worry about being secretly recorded when he or she goes to VA for medical treatment, and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the Veterans’ Privacy Act.

#### COMMEMORATING YOM HASHOAH

### HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 11, 2013*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate Holocaust Remembrance Day, or Yom Hashoah, and to pay tribute to the men, women, and children murdered by the Nazis during the Holocaust.

This week, we pause to join in solidarity to remember one of the darkest chapters in human history. During the Holocaust, six million Jews were killed, and countless others were brutalized, raped, dehumanized, and robbed. It is critical that, as nations and as individuals, we preserve the history of the Holocaust and the memories of survivors and other witnesses.

The Days of Remembrance hold a deep meaning for me, as a Jewish American, and for my community. My district, the 9th Congressional District of Illinois, is home to one of the largest concentrations of Holocaust survivors in the country. An estimated 3,500 Holocaust survivors live in the Chicago area, all of whom are elderly, and many of whom do not receive the care and services they need. Skokie, in my district, is home to a beautiful Holocaust museum opened in 2009, a 65,000-square-foot facility dedicated to sharing the history of the Holocaust and teaching the importance of combating hatred, indifference, and genocide to current and future generations across the Midwest.

We pledged “Never Again” but, over sixty years later, we continue to fight anti-Semitism and other forms of hatred and intolerance, even genocide. As we reflect on the tragedy of the lives lost and honor those who survived, we need to also pledge to do better moving forward. In a world where genocide, intolerance, and neglect are far too prevalent, we need to stand up against violations of human rights. We need to continue to fight injustice and protect people everywhere.

This week, we pause to remember all those who perished, honor those who survived, and redouble our pledge to fight genocide, intolerance, and persecution wherever they occur.

#### 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OLD DOMINION DENTAL SOCIETY

### HON. ROBERT C. “BOBBY” SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 11, 2013*

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a legacy of community service in the Commonwealth of Virginia and throughout the nation. This year, the Old Dominion Dental Society is celebrating its 100th anniversary, and I would like to take a moment to reflect on the history of this esteemed organization and its contributions to the Commonwealth of Virginia.

In 1913, black dentists sought to organize into a professional society and these efforts resulted in the Tri-State Dental Association of Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Colum-

bia, formed under the leadership of Dr. D. A. Ferguson of Richmond, Virginia. Five years later the name was changed to the Interstate Dental Association to accommodate growing interest from dentists around the region. Ultimately, in 1932, the organization’s name was changed to the National Dental Association, and so it remains today. Since that time, the National Dental Association has provided over 6000 African-American dentists in the United States and abroad the platform and the support to help them succeed.

From this history also arose the Old Dominion Dental Society. The Old Dominion Dental Society served as a forum for minority dentists in Virginia who were denied membership to the American Dental Association and the Virginia Dental Association. For 100 years, the Old Dominion Dental Society has grown and fostered professional development for the dental profession and brought needed services to the most vulnerable communities in Virginia.

The Old Dominion Dental Society has also invested in the next generation of dentists through annual scholarships for underrepresented minorities. Through these scholarships, the Society has insured that a diverse group of young students will have the opportunity to excel in the field of dentistry. Members of the organization have been generous donors of their time and expertise to various state and community service organizations, strengthening communities and making our neighborhoods healthier. Motivated by the philosophy that health care is a born right for all people, the Old Dominion Dental Society has been a relentless leader in the quest for equality and equity in health care and today I celebrate all of the members, past and present, that have set an example for all of us over the past 100 years.

There are many Old Dominion Dental Society members that have worked tirelessly to make the Society as successful and respected as it is today. I want to congratulate the members for all their achievements, and especially acknowledge a few: Dr. McKinley Price, Mayor of Newport News; the late Dr. James Holley, former Mayor of Portsmouth; the late Dr. Hugo Owens, former Vice Mayor of Chesapeake; Dr. Elizabeth Daniels, Vice Chair of Portsmouth School Board; Dr. Walter Claytor, the first African-American dentist to serve on the Virginia Board of Dentistry; and Dr. James Watkins, presently serving his fourth term as a member of the Virginia Board of Dentistry and the first African-American dentist to be president of the Virginia State Dental Board. Under their leadership, the Old Dominion Dental Society has and will continue to flourish.

As the Old Dominion Dental Society gathers to celebrate this historic milestone, this organization can truly remember its past, celebrate its present, and focus on its future. As we continue to work to invest in our future, protect access to health care, and promote education, I praise the drive and vision of the members who make our community a better place to live. I would like to congratulate all of the members of the Old Dominion Dental Society on the occasion of its 100th Anniversary, and I wish them many more years of dedicated service to the community.